

URBAN DISTRICT
of
ASHINGTON.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER
of
HEALTH.

For the Year

1939.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR 1939.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health.)	
Medical Officer M. & C.W.)	
Authority.....	)	James Angus, M.B., CH.B., B.HY.,
Medical Officer, Infectious	)	D.P.H. (appointed 1st. Oct. 1939).
Diseases Hospital.....)	
	(
Dental Officer.....	(	John Dewar, L.D.S., part-time
	(	(appointed 19th Oct. 1939).
	(	G.W. Hutchinson, L.D.S., part-time
	(	(resigned).
Ophthalmic Surgeon.....		Alex. MacRae, M.A., M.D., D.O.M.S.
		part-time.
	(	E. Farquhar Murray, M.D., F.R.C.S.(Eng)
Obstetrical Consultants....	(	H. Evers, M.B., M.S., F.R.C.S.(Eng).
	(	F.E. Stabler, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Eng).
Sanitary)		
Housing)	Inspector (Senior)	G.W. Tate, F.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.
Meat)		
Sanitary)	Inspector	
Meat)	(additional).....	E.W. Strachan, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.
Health and child	(	Miss I. Taylor, S.C.M.
protection Visitors.....	(	Miss N.P. McKenna, S.R.N. S.C.M.
Matron Infectious Diseases		
Hospital.....		Miss E.A. Chisholm, S.R.N.
Staff Nurses.....	(	Miss A.R. Moore.
	(	Miss E. Ormiston.
Clerk Typist.....		Miss A. Lillico.
OFFICES.....		Council Chambers, Ashington,
		Northumberland.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of
Ashington.

Gentlemen,

I have the privilege of presenting my tenth Annual Report on the Sanitary condition of the Urban District, and on the work of the Public Health Services for the year 1939.

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circulars 1961 and 2067, Medical Officer of Health are adjured, on account of increasing pressure of work and the need for strict economy, to issue interim condensed annual reports. Hence the presentation of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in a much abridged form, in which only essential matters are touched upon.

I should not let the opportunity slip without directing your attention to the very low figure (27) recorded in the number of infantile deaths below one year of age. Ten years ago, 1929, the number of such deaths was 85.

There is another matter of paramount importance to the community that I consider should be the subject of serious reflection on the part of parents and guardians of susceptible children of tender years: I refer to the question of preventive inoculation against diphtheria. There were just as many cases recorded, 279 with 4 deaths - a state of affairs on a par with 1928, despite the fact that ample facilities for immunisation of children have been offered for many years now, free of charge, at the Child Welfare and Toddlers Clinics. Only 91 children obtained the above advantage during the year under review: a shockingly poor response indeed, considering the great advantage conferred. In these most critical times, I deem that nothing should be left undone which would contribute to the eradication of so serious, and oft times fatal, a malady as diphtheria among pre-school and school children, and I am of opinion that immunisation against diphtheria should be obligatory on a national scale for every child, before attaining the age of two years, with a strong recommendation for a single re-inforcing treatment about the time of entry to school.

It should be recorded that the long looked for transition from a part-time Medical Officer of Health permitted to engage in private practice to one debarred by the terms of the appointment from so doing, took place on 1st. October, 1939, when I commenced duty as the first holder of that office.

I have pleasure in recording too, my appreciation for much consideration from the Members of the Council and for the assistance of my staff.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

JAMES ANGUS,

Medical Officer of Health.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ASHINGTON.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR 1939.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area, in acres - 6057.

Registrar General's estimate of

(a) Resident population mid 1939..... 29650

(b) Average population appropriate to the
calculation of death rate..... 29360

Areal comparability factor is 1.23.

Rateable value - £109154.

Sum represented by a penny rate - £455.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939) - 7534.

Vital Statistics.

Births:-

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate.....	458	219	239
Illegitimate.....	13	3	10
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population - 15.88.			

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate.....	32	20	12
Illegitimate.....	1	0	1
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 65.5.			

Deaths:-

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
	310	158	152
Death rate per 1,000 of the average population - 10.56			
Death rate multiplied by areal comparability factor - 12.98.			

Deaths from puerperal causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list):-

	<u>Deaths.</u>	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis.....	0	0.0
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes	<u>1</u>	<u>1.98.</u>
Total.....	1	1.98.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births.....	57.08
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	58.7
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	0.0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....	39.0
Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	0.0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).....	1.0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years).....	1.0

BIRTHS.

During the year the total number of live births registered within the district was 402. The Registrar General adds 69 to this number for live births belonging to but occurring outside our district; thus giving a total of 471. Comparing the figures of this district with the R.G.'s tables in S.D.55, we find the following birth rates per 1,000 population given as follows:-

For England and Wales.....	15.0 per 1,000
For 126 C.B's and Great Towns (including London.	14.8 per 1,000
For 148 Smaller Towns (population 25,000-50,000)	15.6 per 1,000

The illegitimate births registered and allocated to the district are 13, - Three males and ten females.

The following table gives the monthly births, sex and distribution. A.U.D. Births - Sex and Distribution 1939.

	<u>Ashington.</u>			<u>Hirst.</u>			<u>District.</u>			<u>Illegitimate.</u>			
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	Ash't'n.	Hirst.	Dist.	
January	7	2	9	7	11	18	14	13	27	-	-	-	-
February	1	4	5	6	13	19	7	17	24	-	-	-	-
March	9	6	15	11	14	25	20	20	40	-	-	-	-
April	4	6	10	12	11	23	16	17	33	-	1	-	1
May	2	3	5	13	15	28	15	18	33	-	-	-	-
June	6	8	14	14	15	29	20	23	43	-	-	-	-
July	9	7	16	7	7	14	16	14	30	-	-	-	-
August	5	12	17	9	13	22	14	25	39	-	-	-	-
September	6	3	9	17	7	24	23	10	33	-	-	2	2
October	3	5	8	14	12	26	17	17	34	-	1	1	1
November	2	6	8	9	12	21	11	18	29	-	1	1	1
December	8	4	12	9	10	19	17	14	31	-	-	-	-

DEATHS:

The total number of deaths from all causes registered in the district for the year is 278 but there were 8 deaths of non-residents registered here (outward transfers) to be deducted and there were 40 deaths of residents of the district registered elsewhere (inward transfers) to be added, giving 310 as the corrected total number of deaths for the year.

The R.G.'s table in S.D. 55 of the annual death rates per 1000 population sets out

For England and Wales.....	12.1
For 126 C.B.'s and Great Towns.....	12.0
For 148 Smaller Towns (25,000-50,000....	11.2

CAUSES OF AND AGES OF DEATHS, 1939.

Net Deaths at the Sub-joined ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the district.

all Under 1 - 2 - 5 -15 -25 -45 -65 & Public
ages. 1 yr. 2 5 15 25 45 65 upwds. Institutions.

1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Measles.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria.	4	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	4
6. Influenza.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Encephalitis Lethargica.	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
8. Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	14	-	-	-	1	4	2	7	-	3
10. Other Tubercular Diseases.	3	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	2
11. Syphilis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. General Paralysis of the Insane	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
13. Cancer, malignant disease	38	-	-	-	-	1	2	22	13	8
14. Diabetes.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	51	-	-	-	-	1	1	13	36	7
16. Heart Disease	60	-	-	-	-	2	5	22	31	8
17. Aneurysm.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18. Other circulatory diseases.	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
19. Bronchitis.	24	2	-	-	-	1	2	3	16	-
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	25	7	3	1	1	2	2	3	6	2
21. Other respiratory diseases.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22. Peptic Ulcer.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Diarrhoea etc, (under 2 yrs)	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24. Appendicitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25. Cirrhosis of Liver.	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
26. Other diseases of Liver.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
28. Acute & Chronic Nephritis.	17	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	12	6
29. Puerperal sepsis,	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
30. Other puerperal causes.	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	3
Totals Carried Forward:-	260	11	4	3	6	13	22	77	124	50

		All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1 - 2	2 - 5	5 - 15	15 - 25	25 - 45	45 - 65	65 & upwds.	Total deaths in public institutions.
Totals -											
Brought Forward	260	11	4	3	6	13	22	77	124		50
31. Congenital debility pre-mature birth malformations.	16	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		6
32. Senility.	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8		1
33. Suicide.	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1		-
34. Other Violence.	5	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2		2
35. Other defined Diseases.	18	-	-	-	1	2	5	3	7		11
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Totals.	310	27	4	3	7	17	28	82	142		70

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1939.

The total number of deaths of children under 1 year is 27 this year compared with 33 for 1938. The Infantile Mortality Rate is therefore 57.08 per 1,000 live births. The corresponding rate for 1938 was 75.34 per 1,000 children born, the number of deaths under 1 year being 33.

NEONATAL DEATHS:- Included in above figures - number 16, and of these 13 died within the first week of life.

Comparing these figures again with the Registrar General's Table, S.D.55 the Infantile Mortality Rates are given:-

For England and Wales. 50 deaths per 1000 live births.
 For 126 C.B.'s and Great Towns. 53 deaths per 1000 live births.
 For 148 Smaller Towns.....40 deaths per 1000 live births.

Comparative mortality table during the past years is as follows-

Year.	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939.
Number of deat										
Infant deaths										
from										
(a) Diarrhoea & Enteritis under 2 years.	6	3	6	12	3	5	4	3	4	1
(b) Infantile deaths under 1 year.	55	52	48	51	43	57	41	37	33	27

Causes of Death.					Total under						Total Deaths	
	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks	2-3 wks	3-4 wks	1 mth		1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	under 1 yr.	
Measles.	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Diphtheria & Croup.	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Diarrhoea and Enteritis.	-	-	-	-	-		-	1	-	-	1	
Tuberculosis-abdominal.	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Tuberculosis-Meningeal.	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Meningitis non-Tubercular.	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Premature Birth, Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus.	8	1	-	-	9		-	-	-	-	9	
Congenital Malformation.	1	-	-	-	1		1	1	-	-	3	
Atelectasis.	1	-	-	-	1		-	-	-	-	1	
Injury at Birth.	3	-	-	-	3		-	-	-	-	3	
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Syphilis.	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Convulsions.	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Bronchitis.	-	-	-	1	1		-	2	-	-	3	
Pneumonia (all forms)	-	-	-	1	1		2	4	-	-	7	
Other Causes	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
Total.	13	1	-	2	16		3	8	-	-	27	

Of the 27 infant deaths, 13 died within one week of birth from prematurity and congenital defects. Of the remaining 14, fatal affections of the respiratory tract accounted for 10.

CANCER AND SARCOMA MORTALITY.

Cancer.	Males.							Females.						
	20	30	40	45	55	65	Tot.	20	30	40	45	55	65	Tot.
Palate.	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oesophagus	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stomach	-	-	-	-	3	3	6	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Colon	-	-	-	-	2	3	5	-	1	-	-	1	2	4
Rectum	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mamma	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	5
Vulva	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Lungs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Bronchi	-	-	-	-	2	2	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total.	-	-	-	1	10	8	19	1	1	1	3	6	5	17
<u>Sarcoma</u>														
Rib	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Stomach	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	-	-	-	1	-	-	11	-	1	-	-	-	-	1

NETT MONTHLY DEATHS AND BIRTHS.

Months.	<u>Ashington Ward.</u>		<u>Hirst Ward.</u>		Total All Ages.	Total Births Registered.
	All Ages.	Under 1 yr.	All Ages.	Under 1 yr.		
January	7	-	23	1	31	27
February	4	-	13	1	18	24
March	9	1	12	1	23	40
April	9	-	12	-	21	34
May	7	-	11	1	19	33
June	5	-	14	-	19	43
July	10	1	12	-	23	30
August	10	-	19	-	29	39
September	11	-	10	-	21	35
October	4	-	15	-	19	34
November	9	2	10	1	22	32
December	8	3	13	-	24	31
Total.	<u>93</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>402</u>

The Registrar General supplies the following Table:-

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1939.

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers.	-	-
2. Measles.	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	1	-
5. Diphtheria	1	3
6. Influenza	2	2
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	-	1
8. Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	8	4
10. Other Tuberculous diseases.	1	1
11. Syphilis	-	1
12. General Paralysis of the Insane	-	-
Tabes Dorsalis	1	-
13. Cancer, malignant disease	21	18
14. Diabetes	-	2
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	16	15
16. Heart Disease.	36	46
17. Aneurysm	-	-
18. Other Circulatory diseases	12	5
19. Bronchitis	5	2
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	16	7
21. Other respiratory diseases	2	1
22. Peptic Ulcer.	-	-
23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under two years).	1	-
24. Appendicitis	-	-
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	1	1
26. Other diseases of Liver, etc.	1	2
27. Other Digestive Diseases.	-	4
28. Acute & Chronic Nephritis.	2	8
29. Puerperal Sepsis.	-	-
30. Other Puerperal Causes.	-	1
31. Congenital Debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	6	9
32. Senility	1	5
33. Suicide	3	-
34. Other Violence	4	2
35. Other defined diseases	16	12
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown.	1	-

		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Deaths of infants	(Legitimate.....	14	13
under 1 year.	(Illegitimate.....	-	-
	(Totals.....	14	13
Live Births ...	(Legitimate.....	221	239
	(Illegitimate.....	3	10
	(Totals.....	224	249
Still Births ...	(Legitimate.....	20	12
	(Illegitimate.....	-	1
	(Totals.....	20	13
Population - 29,650.			

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The bacteriological examination of specimens of pathological material in aid of diagnosis continues to be carried out by the County Council, at the County Laboratory, Newburn.

The following Table shows to what extent this arrangement is utilised and the information may be conveniently set out at this point though it can be related to section F.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION RESULTS.

DURING THE YEAR, 1939.

M.O.H. Ashington.	Swabs for C.	Pos.	Neg.	Total.	
	Diphtheria.	22	307	329)
Other Medical					) 673
Practitioners.	do.	149	195	344)
C.C.T.O.	Tubercle	9	54	63)
	Sputa)
Other Medical					) 124
Practitioners.	do.	5	56	61)
M.O.H. Ashington.	Enteric Fever				
	Blood.	-	4	4)
Other Medical					) 5
Practitioners.	do.	-	1	1)
M.O.H. Ashington.	Swabs for				
	Haemolytic				
	Streptococcus.	2	3	5)
Other Medical					) 34
Practitioners.	do.	13	16	29)

		Pos.	Neg.	Total.
Other Medical Practitioners.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever			
	Cerebro-Spinal Fluid.	-	1	1
Other Medical Practitioners.	Miscellaneous Fluids including Pus.	-	5	5

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION RESULTS.

DURING THE YEAR, 1939.

(Infectious Diseases - Hospital.)

Sent in by M.O.H.	Swabs for C. Diphtheria.	Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococcus.	Virulence Tests Morphological C.Diphtheriae..
	Pos. Neg.	Pos. Neg.	Pos. Neg.
As Physician in charge of Hospital.	509 522	239 197	23 3
Totals.	<u>509</u> <u>522</u>	<u>239</u> <u>197</u>	<u>23</u> <u>3</u>
	1031	436	26

Ambulance Facilities.

Three motor ambulances for non-infectious and accident cases and a fourth for infectious cases are available in the area.

Nursing in the Home.

The same nursing facilities described in previous reports have been continued during 1939 practically without change.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

All treatment centres and clinics as previously indicated in earlier reports.

Hospitals.

The Ashington Hospital is a voluntary hospital within the Urban District. Accommodation for 26 males and 14 females, and three children. Outside the Ashington Urban Area, further hospital services can be obtained at all of the large hospitals in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, twenty miles distant.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics were held in the M.C.W. building in South View.

Sessions 99 from 2 - 4 p.m. Monday and Thursday afternoons throughout the year.

The following is a record of the attendances during the twelvemonth.

Total attendances during the year:-

Children under 1 year..... 4488
Children between 1 and 5 years..... 1167

Total number of children who attended at the Centre for the first time during the year and who at the date of their first attendance were:-

(a) Under 1 year of age..... 523
(b) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years.. 380

Total number of children who attended at the Centre during the year and who at the end of the year were:-

(a) Under 1 year of age..... 298
(b) Over 1 year of age..... 519

Special attention continues to be directed to observing the dental and oral state of the mothers attending with their babies and those in whom the oro-dental state is found to be unsatisfactory are referred to the Dental Officer for treatment.

Milk Foods etc. - During the year milk foods and other specialities were supplied in accordance with the undermentioned data.

	Food Sold at Cost Price.	Food Sold at Half Price.	Food supplied free to necessitous cases.
Ostermilk No. 1.	782 lbs.	20 lbs	127 lbs.
Ostermilk No. 2.	3045 "	30 "	535 "
Cow and Gate	4085 "	41 "	614 "
Nutrix	2180 "	21 "	560 "
Virol	544 tins.	-	-
Virolax	66 "	-	-
Codliver Oil Emulsion	171 bottles	-	36 bottles
Marmite	275 cartons	-	-
Sister Laura's Food	72 tins	-	41 tins
Maltoline	43 "	-	-
Trufood	723 "	4 tins.	87 "
Follow-on-Trufood	123 "	-	24 "

In so far as the supply of food free of cost is concerned, all such was supplied to necessitous cases coming within the scale of income approved by the Ministry of Health, and amounted in value to £141. 4. 11.

Clinics for the pre-School Child (1½ - 5 years).

These sessions commenced on November 10th, 1936, were held every second Tuesday afternoon from 2 - 4 p.m.

Number of Sessions held..... 24
Number of children examined..... 294

Defects in pre-school children during 1939. Numbers of children examined in whom were found:-

Caries of Teeth	152	Impetigo.....	4
Tonsils enlarged	27	Bronchitis.....	6
Squints.....	21	Malnutrition....	1
Cardiac Bruits..	3		

Those children in whom dental caries is disclosed at these examinations are referred to the Dental Officer.

MATERNITY SERVICES IN ASHINGTON.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

One afternoon session is held per week throughout the year.

Number of Sessions held... 47.

Total number of new cases under above auspices... 61
 " " " revisits " " " ... 92

Where the circumstances were adjudged necessary food free of cost was given to expectant mothers.

References to Specialists.- There were referred to obstetric specialists in Newcastle during the year from the Ante-Natal Clinics under the scheme, 21 cases for opinion and report, at a cost of £36. 2. 6.

Home Helps.- Home Helps have been available during the year and their services have been engaged on 31 occasions.

Maternity Outfits may be had on requisition and payment of a small fee.

Maternity Morbidity (cases of puerperal pyrexia) - In accordance with expressions contained in Ministry of Health's memo 156/M.C.W. 1930, practitioners can avail themselves of any one of the following provisions:-

- (1) To have a second opinion in the case.
- (2) To have bacteriological examinations of (a) lochia, (b) blood.
- (3) That the patient be admitted to hospital.
- (4) That a trained nurse be provided.

Maternity Hospital- The agreement still obtains with the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, to admit from this Area emergency Maternity cases approved by the Medical Officer of Health, and during 1939 there were 26 such. The types of these cases are described as follows:- Puerperal Pyrexia 1; Toxaemias of Pregnancy 7; Instrumental deliveries 5; abortions 2; Breech deliveries 3; Miscellaneous 4; There were recorded amongst these 7 normal deliveries.

Childlife Protection visitors are the two Health Visitors. At the end of the year 1938 there were 5 children on the register, three of which returned to their parents during 1939.

Summary of Child Welfare Activities, etc.

Birth Notifications received from Doctors and Parents.....	57
" " " " Midwives.....	430
Total Births registered.....	487
Number of infants supervised - First Visits.....	473
" " " " - Revisits.....	2697
Number of Re-visits to children from 1 to 5 years.....	3611
First visits to babies wholly breast fed.....	386
" " " " hand fed.....	19
" " " " partly hand fed.....	-
First Visits to expectant Mothers.....	78
Total Visits to expectant Mothers.....	276

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER - The supply from the Tynemouth Corporation continues to be ample, constant and averages about 460,000 gallons per day.

BACTERIOSCOPIC RESULTS.

Source.	Date.	Colonies of Organisms on Agar at 37°C after 48 hrs. per ml.	Colonies of Organisms On Agar at 22°C after 72 hrs. per ml.	Coli Aerogenes Test Orgns.per 100 ml.
Town Supply.	12. 4. 39.	4	103	1
do.	12. 4. 39.	Nil	32	Nil
do.	20. 9. 39.	1	44	5
Woodhorn Cott- ages Pit Supply.	20. 9. 39.	Nil	270	Nil
Bothal Water Supply.	20. 9. 39.	3	68	5

Drainage and Sewerage - No extensions of any importance were undertaken during 1939.

Rivers and Streams - No action taken under this heading.

<u>Year 1939.</u>	<u>Extensions and Alterations.</u>	<u>After Informal Notice.</u>	<u>After Statutory Notice.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>Sanitary Conveniences.</u>				
Privies abolished	-	-	-	-
Privies repaired	-	-	-	-
Ashpits abolished	-	-	-	-
Ashpits roofed or repaired	-	-	-	-
Pail Closets abolished	-	-	-	-
Water Closets provided	14	-	-	14
Water Closets repaired	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Bins provided	48	-	-	48
Sanitary Bins renewed.	-	121	-	121

Drainage.

New Drains constructed	44	-	-	44
Drains repaired or reconstructed	-	6	-	6
Additional gullies provided	16	-	-	16
Old Gullies replaced	-	15	-	15
Scullery sinks provided	20	-	-	20
Scullery waste-pipes repaired	-	11	-	11
Scullery waste-pipes trapped	-	-	-	-
Yards repaired or re- constructed.	-	10	-	10

Water Supply.

Sources closed or dis- continued.	-	No.houses affected. 26	26
New service provided.	-		

(section C).

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Public Cleansing is undertaken by the Surveyor's Department.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area -

Sanitary Inspector's Report. Year ending December 31st. 1939.

(Sanitary Officers' Order 1926 Art. 19 (15) modified).

	No. of Inspection during year.	No. of defects or contraven- tions of bye- laws & No. out- standing from previous year.	Defects remedied.	No. of informal notices served.
<u>Housing.</u>				
Structural defects (summary of sheet 11)	545	343	260	232
Defective foodstore.	69	23	20	23
Dampness	192	48	43	42
Overcrowding	39	9	3	2
Nuisances	180	60	33	51
<u>Water Supply.</u>				
Insufficient) Unsatisfactory)	4	2	2	2
<u>Drainage.</u>				
Insufficient	135	3	3	3
Defective.		65	65	3
<u>Sanitary Conveniences.</u>				
Insufficient	52	18	16	17
Defective	72	34	34	1
Shops, Foodstores, etc.	46	17	13	-
Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops.	16	6	6	-
Slaughter Houses.	907	5	5	-
Tents, Vans, etc.	-	-	-	-
Offensive Trades.	64	5	5	-
Workshops & Workplaces.	213	21	21	-
Keeping of Animals.	-	-	-	-
Insanitary ash-pits & Receptacles.	-	-	-	-
Ashpits improperly used.	15	6	2	5
Offensive accumulations.	7	2	1	1
Smoke nuisances.	38	4	4	1
Total.	2594	671	536	383

Offensive Trades -

Fish Friers.....	23
Gut Scrapers.....	2
Tripe Boilers.....	2

Total. 27

(section C).

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Inspection of Factories, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Number of -

<u>Premises (1)</u>	<u>Inspections (2)</u>	<u>Verbal or Written Notices (3)</u>	<u>Prosecutions (4)</u>
Factories.	213	21	Nil.

Defects found in Factories.

<u>Particulars (1)</u>	<u>Number of defects.</u>				<u>No. of Prosec- utions.</u>
	<u>Found. (2)</u>	<u>Remedied. (3)</u>	<u>Referred to H.M. Ins. (4)</u>		
Nuisance under the Public Health Acts.					
Want of Cleanliness.	21	21	-		-
Sanitary Accommodation (unsuitable or defective)	-	-	-		-
Failure to fix abstract.	-	-	-		-
Total.	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>

REGISTERED FACTORIES.

Bakers.....	12
Blacksmith)	
Wheelwright).....	5
Boot Repairers.....	17
Butchers.....	6
Dressmakers, Milliners.....	9
Electricians.....	2
Joiners and Undertakers.....	9
Laundry.....	1
Milk Pasteurising Plant.....	1
Motor and Cycle Repairs.....	11
Pickle Factory.....	1
Picture Framers.....	1
Plumbers.....	6
Painters.....	7
Printers.....	4
Picture Houses.....	5
Stocking Knitter.....	1
Tailors.....	2
Upholsterers.....	1
Watch Repairers.....	2

Total number of Factories on Register.. 106

Camping Sites - There are no camping sites in the Area.

Smoke Abatement - Prosecutions against house-holders for "permitting the chimney of their dwelling house to be accidentally on fire" were 15.

Swimming Baths and Pools. - There are pit-head baths and showers at Woodhorn Colliery, and in another part of the district there is a swimming bath open to members and others.

Water Sample.

Institute Swimming Baths.

Date 20. 9. 39.

Colonies of organisms on Agar at 37°C after 48 hrs. per ml. - 2,160
Colonies of organisms on Agar at 22°C after 72 hrs. per ml. - 1,840
Coli Aerogenes Test Organisms per 100 ml - Nil.

Eradication of Bed Bugs. - Number of Council houses found to be infested and disinfested - 47. Number of other houses - 15. Insecticides Solution B. and Zaldecide were used. The work is carried out by the Local Authority.

Schools. - There were 7 schools, all of which have an abundant water supply, the water carriage system and hand basins for washing.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Since the outbreak of war there has been an absolute postponement of any work contemplated under this heading, either for slum clearance or with a view to abating over-crowding. Only in the most exceptional circumstances would the Minister approve of any new building and then only for work where the erection of new houses was necessary for employees of new factories or for agricultural workers.

Number of New houses erected during the year :-

- (a) By private Owners..... 48
- (b) By Local Authority..... Nil

Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year -

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 232

Number of Inspections made for the purpose..... 545

Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... 14

Action under Statutory Powers during the year -

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936..... Nil.

Proceedings under Public Health Acts -

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 2

Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-

- (a) By Owners..... 9
- (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners..... Nil

(section D).

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Proceedings under Sections, 11, 12, and 13, of the Housing Act 1936.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition Orders were made..... Nil.

Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... Nil

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made..... Nil

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit..... Nil

Housing Act, 1936, Part IV - Overcrowding:-

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year..... 165

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein..... 222

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein1402

(b) Number of new cases of Overcrowding reported during the year..... Nil

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year..... 8

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases..... 40

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.. Nil

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply - Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.

96 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological and biological examination to the County Laboratory with the following results:-

For B. Tuberculosis - Positive 2; Negative 48. One Cow was slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order 1938. 46 samples of Pasteurised Milk submitted, gave counts ranging from 425 to 35,000 bacteria per ml.

Registered under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshop Orders are:-

Wholesale Traders and Producers of Milk..... 10
Purveyors..... 23

Number of cowsheds..... 9

Number of Cows.....178 approx.

Meat and Other Foods.

Number of animals inspected post mortem:-
Bovine 1,976; Cows 549; Calves 29; Sheep 6,945; Pigs 2,010.

There are 10 slaughter houses holding an annual licence and there also 2 meat stalls in a market.

Meat and Other Foods.MEAT, ORGANS, ETC. CONDEMNED, SURRENDERED & DESTROYED.For Tuberculosis.

Bovine Lungs.	211	Swine Lungs.	3	Cow Carcasses	6. 198 stones.
Head & Tongue.	84	" Heads.	14	Heifer "	1. 35 "
Livers.	31	" Livers.	4	Swine "	2. 23 "
Mesenteries.	18	" Mesenteries.	1		
Udders.	12	" Plucks.	9	Beef weighing	120 $\frac{1}{4}$ stones.
Kidneys.	2				
Spleen.	5				
Stomach.	1				

OTHER DEFINED DISEASES.

Bovine Lungs.	4	Swine Lungs.	21	Cow Carcasses	5.
Head & Tongue.	2	" Livers.	7	Sheep "	7.
Livers.	51	" Plucks.	3		
Mesenteries.	30				
Udders.	44	Sheep Livers.	1		
Kidneys.	11	Sheep Plucks.	36		

	Cattle. exc. Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Swine.
Number Killed.	1976	549	29	2945	2010
Number Inspected.	1976	549	29	2945	2010

All Diseases except T.B:-

Whole Carcasses Condemned.	Nil	5	Nil	7	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or Organ was condemned.	20	82	Nil	37	33
% of the Number killed affected with disease other than T.B.	1.012%	15.84%	-	0.619%	1.64%

Tuberculosis only:-

Whole Carcasses condemned.	1	6	Nil	Nil	2
Carcasses of which some part or Organ was condemned.	99	265	Nil	Nil	31
% of the Number affected with T.B.	5.06%	49.36%	-	-	1.64%

SECTION F.PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital has accommodation for about 40 patients.

The staff includes Matron, two Staff Nurses, two Probationers, three maids, and porter-groundsman.

One motor ambulance is provided for the removal of cases of infectious disease.

There were 18 patients in hospital on January 1st. 1939, The number admitted during the year was 193 (scarlet fever 10; Diphtheria 180; Erysipelas 1; Tonsillitis 1; and 1 for observation). 199 patients were discharged during the year, leaving 12 in hospital on December 31st. 1939. The hospital was occupied all the year and the expenditure amounted to £2340. 5. 11., of which £298. 7. 7., was recovered from other authorities.

The following premises were disinfected: 278 houses and 5 wards at Ashington Hospital for infectious disease, and 72 rooms for vermin. The steam disinfecter at the Isolation Hospital has been in constant use during the year.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers - No cases were notified during the year.

Scarlet Fever - Notifications have decreased this year to 53 in place of 88 last year.

	<u>1935</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1939</u>
Number of Cases...	255	48	83	88	53
Number of Deaths.	2	0	0	0	0

Diphtheria - Notifications:-

	<u>1935</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1939</u>
Number of Cases	115	56	32	175	179
Number of Deaths.	4	0	3	5	4

Immunisation against Diphtheria is still offered by the Council at Clinics set up following the Child Welfare Session and Clinics for the Toddler for the age group 1 to 8 years free of charge. There was no preliminary Schick testing and the method recommended has been, during 1939, by three injections of Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules (T.A.F.) and 91 such immunisations were effected in 1939.

Pneumonia, - Notifications this year are 13 compared with 18 last year. There were 25 deaths.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum - There were three cases of this disease notified. Vision was unimpaired on recovery in all instances.

TUBERCULOSIS.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1939.

<u>Age Periods.</u>	<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths Notified Cases.</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Resp.</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Resp.</u>	
Years.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	2	1	-	1	1	-	1	1
15-	2	3	1	-	2	1	-	-
25-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	1
35-	2	-	-	-	1	4	-	-
45-	2	1	-	-	3	1	-	-
55-	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
65 upwds.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

	<u>1935.</u>	<u>1936.</u>	<u>1937.</u>	<u>1938.</u>	<u>1939.</u>
Number of Cases	20	30	20	19	19
Number of Deaths.	10	16	10	7	14

No action was found necessary under the P.H. (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under section 172, P.H.A. 1936.

Cerebro Spinal Fever - One case was reported during the year:

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

(Ministry of Health Table)

	Under 1 yr.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65	T'tl Adms nts to Hosp.	T't'l Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	-	1	3	2	5	19	10	5	5	1	-	-	51	11
Diphtheria	-	3	4	3	9	112	37	5	6	-	-	-	179	149
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	4	1
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	7	1	13	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	3	3	11	-
C.S. Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ophthalmia- Neonatorum	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Distribution, 1939.

Mths.	Diph.	Scarlet Fever	Erysi- pelas	Tuber- culosis Resp.	Other Tuber- cular diseases	Pneu.	Puer- peral Pyrexia.
A. H.	A. H.	A. H.	A. H.	A. H.	A. H.	A. H.	A..H.
Jan. 21	3	1	-	1	-	2	-
Feb. 6	16	1	1	3	2	1	-
March 6	15	3	2	1	-	1	1
April 3	5	3	6	2	1	1	1
May 4	9	2	7	2	1	1	-
June 1	4	1	4	2	-	1	1
July 5	11	-	2	1	-	1	1
Aug. 3	22	-	3	1	-	1	-
Sept. 5	18	1	10	2	-	-	-
Oct. -	7	1	1	1	-	2	-
Nov. 3	6	1	-	-	-	-	-
Dec. 2	4	1	-	1	-	-	-
Total.	59	15	36	9	2	6	12
	179	51	11	18	3	9	4

The following Ministry of Health communications were sent to each Medical Practitioner in the district - The Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations 1939 (102577) and Memo on Typhoid Fever, Memo 225/Med.

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality,
Maternal Mortality and Case notes for certain Infectious
diseases in the year 1939.

Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	126	145	
	County Boro's	Smaller towns	London
	England and Wales.	(Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	Administrative County.
	and Great Towns including LONDON.		

Rates per 1,000 population.

Live Births	15.0	14.8	15.6	12.3
Still Births	0.59	0.59	0.57	0.44

<u>Deaths</u>				
All Causes	12.1	12.0	11.2	11.9
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.02
Influenza	0.21	0.19	0.20	0.18

<u>Notifications</u>				
Smallpox	0.00	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1.89	1.96	1.78	1.53
Diphtheria	1.41	1.21	1.16	0.98
Enteric	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Erysipelas	0.34	0.40	0.31	0.37
Pneumonia	1.02	1.21	0.89	0.99

Rates per 1,000 live Births.

Deaths under 1 year of age.	50	53	40	48
Deaths from Diarrhoea and enteritis under 2 years of age.	4.6	6.3	3.0	8.2

Maternal Mortality:-			
Puerperal Sepsis	0.77)		
Others	2.16)	not available.	
TOTAL	2.93)		

Rate per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)

Maternal Mortality:-			
Puerperal Sepsis	0.74)		
Others	2.08)	not available.	
Total	2.82)		

Notifications			
Puerperal Fever)	17.26	12.99	3.31
Pyrexia)	14.35		14.22



